

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amendment Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a status certification for a message in a communications network, the communications network including a messaging system, the messaging system performing a method, comprising:  
receiving said message and assigning a message identifier to said message at the messaging system, the message generated by a sender and distributed to a recipient of the message, wherein the recipient is a subscriber to a messaging service provided by the messaging system;  
creating a first disposition identifier in response to a first disposition event, the disposition event including at least one of a managing event and a dispatching event;  
associating said first disposition identifier with said message;  
receiving a request for a status notification of said message from the sender of said message, the sender being a non-subscriber of the messaging service;  
compiling said message identifier and said first disposition identifier to generate a first status notification; and  
providing said first status notification to said sender in response to said request;  
creating a second disposition identifier in response to a second disposition event occurring subsequent to said first disposition event, the second disposition event including at least one of a managing event and a dispatching event;  
associating said second disposition identifier with said message;  
compiling said message identifier and said second disposition identifier to generate a second status notification; and  
providing said second status notification to said sender.

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amend. Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
billing a party to said message for said providing of said status certification.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said first and second disposition events are initiated by at least one of the recipient, a messaging system administrator, and an automated event executed by the messaging system comprise at least one of:  
——— a managing event; and  
a dispatching event.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:  
accessing said message;  
deleting said message;  
presenting an indication of said message;  
expiring said message; and  
terminating a recipient of said message from said communications network.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:  
denying said status certification of said message; and  
malfunctioning of said status certification of said message.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:  
forwarding said message; and  
replying to said message.

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amdmt Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said status notification comprises at least one of:

- an audio message;
- a video message;
- a text message;
- a short message service message; and
- a markup language document.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said communications network comprises at least one of:

- an electronic communications network;
- a text-based communications network;
- a telecommunications network;
- a video-enabled communications network; and
- a multimedia-enabled communications network.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

- a type identifier;
- an alphanumeric identifier;
- a capabilities identifier; and
- an annotation.

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amdmt Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

- a communication network identifier;
- a device identifier;
- a role identifier;
- a party identifier;
- a date identifier; and
- a time identifier.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:

- an originator;
- a sender;
- a caller;
- a recipient; and
- a system administrator.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:

- an email address;
- an access address;
- a voice sample; and
- an image.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing an attribute for said status certification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at least one of:

- said message identifier;
- said first or second disposition identifier; and
- said first or second status notification.

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amendment Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising administrative functionality, wherein said administrative functionality comprises at least one of:

- deleting said attribute;
- monitoring said attribute;
- moving said attribute;
- forwarding said attribute;
- securing said attribute;
- archiving said attribute;
- backing up said attribute;
- informing a recipient of said attribute; and
- blocking said attribute.

15. (Original) The method in claim 1, wherein said request comprises a secure request.

16. (Original) The method in claim 1, wherein said request comprises dialing an access number.

17. (Original) The method in claim 1, wherein said request comprises a hypertext transfer protocol request (HTTP) directed to a uniform resource locator address (URL).

18. - 36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a status certification for a message in a communications network comprising:

a messaging system including a processor operative to receive the message and assign a message identifier to said message at the messaging system, the message generated by a sender and distributed to a recipient of the message, wherein the recipient is subscriber to a messaging service provided by the messaging system;

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amend. Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

said processor further operative to create a first disposition identifier in response to a first disposition event, the first disposition event including at least one of a managing event and a dispatching event;

said processor further operative to associate said first disposition identifier with said message;

said processor further operative to receive a request for a status notification from the sender, the sender being a non-subscriber of the messaging service of said message;

said processor further operative to compile said message identifier and said first disposition identifier to generate a first status notification; and

said processor further operative to provide said first status notification to said sender in response to said request;

said processor further operative to create a second disposition identifier in response to a second disposition event occurring subsequent to said first disposition event, the second disposition event including at least one of a managing event and a dispatching event;

said processor further operative to associate said second disposition identifier with said message;

said processor further operative to compile said message identifier and said second disposition identifier to generate a second status notification; and

said processor further operative to provide said second status notification to said sender.

38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said processor is further operative to:

bill a party to said message for said providing of said status certification.

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amendment Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

39. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 37, wherein said first and second disposition events are initiated by at least one of the recipient, a messaging system administrator, and an automated event executed by the messaging system comprise at least one of:  
a managing event; and  
a dispatching event.

40. (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

- accessing said message;
- deleting said message;
- presenting an indication of said message;
- expiring said message; and
- terminating a recipient of said message from said communications network.

41. (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

- denying said status certification of said message; and
- malfunctioning of said status certification of said message.

42. (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:

- forwarding said message; and
- replying to said message.

43. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said status notification comprises at least one of:

- an audio message;
- a video message;
- a text message;

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amdmt Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

a short message service message; and  
a markup language document.

44. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said communications network comprises at least one of:

an electronic communications network;  
a text-based communications network;  
a telecommunications network;  
a video-enabled communications network; and  
a multimedia-enabled communications network.

45. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

a type identifier;  
an alphanumeric identifier  
a capabilities identifier; and  
an annotation.

46. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

a communication network identifier;  
a device identifier;  
a role identifier  
a party identifier;  
a date identifier; and  
a time identifier.

47. (Original) The system of claim 46, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:

an originator;



Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amendment Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

- a sender;
- a caller;
- a recipient; and
- a system administrator.

48. (Original) The system of claim 46, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:

- an email address;
- an access address;
- a voice sample; and
- an image.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein said processor is further operative to store an attribute for said status certification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at least one of:

- said message identifier;
- said first or second disposition identifier; and
- said first or second status notification.

50. (Original) The system of claim 49, wherein said processor is further operative to perform administrative functionality, wherein said administrative functionality comprises at least one of:

- deleting said attribute;
- monitoring said attribute;
- moving said attribute;
- forwarding said attribute;
- securing said attribute;
- archiving said attribute;
- backing up said attribute;
- informing a recipient of said attribute; and

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amendmt Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

blocking said attribute.

51. (Previously Presented) The system in claim 37, further comprising a data repository for storing at least one of

said message,  
said message identifier,  
said first or second disposition identifier, and  
said report.

52. (Original) The system in claim 51, wherein said data repository comprises a database.

53. (Original) The system in claim 51, wherein said data repository comprises:  
a first database for storing said message; and  
a second database for storing said attribute.

54. (Original) The system in claim 37, wherein said request is a secure request.

55. (Original) The system in claim 37, further comprising a network access device to issue said request, wherein said network access device comprises at least one of:

a telephone;  
a television;  
a cellular-capable device;  
a personal digital assistant; and  
a computer.

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein said processor is within an intelligent peripheral and said network is an advanced intelligence network (AIN).

Appl. No. 09/894,542  
Amendment Dated 8/20/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 5/20/2004

57. – 71. (Cancelled)

72. (Original) The system in claim 56, further comprising:  
a service switching point functionally connected to said intelligent peripheral; and  
an interface functionally connected to said service switching point and operative  
to accept a communication directed to said AIN.

73. (Original) The system in claim 72, further comprising a mobile telephone  
switching office (MTSO) functionally connected to said interface and operative to  
facilitate a cellular device communication directed to said AIN.

74. (Original) The system in claim 72, further comprising a computer network  
functionally connected to said interface and operative to facilitate a computer-based  
communication directed to said AIN.